

Message Text

PAGE 01 STATE 206764

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

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FOLLOWING REPEAT GEORGETOWN 1438 ACTION SECSTATE INFO
USUN NEW YORK LONDON 28 AUGUST 75.

QUOTE

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DEPARTMENT PASS OTHER COMMONWEALTH DIPLOMATIC POSTS

E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PORG, EGEN, GY, UN

SUBJECT: COMMONWEALTH FINANCE MINISTERS CONFERENCE HAVING DIFFICULT

Y

OVER DEGREE OF SUPPORT FOR MCINTYRE REPORT

REF: (A) GEORGETOWN 1425 (NOTAL) (B) GEORGETOWN 1412

T1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. SUMMARY: COMMONWEALTH
FINANCE

MINISTERS HAVING DIFFICULTY AGREEING ON EXTENT OF ENDORSEMENT OF
MCINTYRE REPORT. AGREED PARAGRAPHS OF COMMUNIQUE GIVE ONLY LIMITED
ENDORSEMENT WITH RESERVATIONS BY SOME COUNTRIES. CONFERENCE EXPEC-
TED HURRIEDLY TREAT OTHER MATTERS IN LAST DAY. MCINTYRE

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PAGE 02 STATE 206764

REPORT NOW UNCLASSIFIED. END SUMMARY.

2. CONFERENCE MET UNTIL 8:15 P.M. AUGUST 27, HAD WORKING GROUP
CONTINUE THROUGHOUT NIGHT, THEN RESUMED AT 8:30 A.M. AUGUST 28 IN

ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE DEGREE OF ENDORSEMENT OF MCINTYRE REPORT. CONTRARY TO SEC GEN RAMPHAL'S OPTIMISM (REFTEL A) AND IN KEEPING WITH DELEGATE PREDICTION REPORTED PARA 2 REFTEL B, U.K; AUSTRALI AND TO LESSER EXTENT OTHER DC'S ARE UNWILLING TO GIVE REPORT UNRESTRICTED ENDORSEMENT. BY NOON AUGUST 28, MINISTERS HAD AGREED TO FOLLOWING PORTION OF COMMUNIQUE: BEGIN QUOTE

MINISTERS DISCUSSED THE INTERIM REPORT "TOWARDS A NEW INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC ORDER" PREPARED BY THE COMMONWEALTH GROUP OF EXPERTS APPOINTED BY THE HEADS OF GOVT MEETING IN KINGSTON. THEY CONGRATULATED THE GROUP ON PRODUCING A UNANIMOUS AND VALUABLE INTERIM REPORT AND REQUESTED THE GROUP TO COMPLETE ITS WORK IN FULFILMENT OF THE MANDATE FROM THE HEADS OF GOVT FOR A COMPREHENSIVE AND INTER-RELATED PROGRAMME OF PRACTICAL MEASURES DIRECTED AT CLOSING THE GAP BETWEEN THE RICH AND POOR COUNTRIES.

THE PROPOSALS CONTAINED IN THE INTERIM REPORT, MANY OF WHICH ARE AMENABLE TO IMMEDIATE IMPLEMENTATION, COMMANDED A LARGE MEASURE OF AGREEMENT. WITHOUT NECESSARILY COMMITTING THEIR GOVTS TO EVERY ASPECT OF THE INTERIM REPORT, THE MINISTERS GAVE GENERAL ENDORSEMENT TO THE REPORT AND AGREED THAT THE EARLY IMPLEMENTATION OF THESE PROPOSALS WOULD CONSTITUTE A FIRST STEP TOWARDS ACHIEVING THE PROGRESSIVE REMOVAL OF THE WIDE DISPARITIES OF WEALTH NOW EXISTING BETWEEN DIFFERENT SECTIONS OF MANKIND.

MINISTERS COMMENDED THE REPORT AS A VALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO CONSTRUCTIVE INTERNATIONAL DIALOGUE AND CONSENSUS BUILDING IN THE CRITICAL AREA OF INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC RELATIONS. THEY THEREFORE REQUESTED THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO PUBLISH THE INTERIM REPORT AND TO MAKE IT AVAILABLE TO THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY, PARTICULARLY IN THE CONTEXT OF THE SEVENTH SPECIAL SESSION OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY.

MINISTERS CALLED THE ATTENTION OF THE GROUP OF EXPERTS TO THE NEED IN ITS FINAL REPORT FOR EXAMINATION IN DEPTH, A NUMBER OF ISSUES NOT FULLY COVERED BY THE INTERIM REPORT, TAKING INTO ACCOUNT THE WORK BEING CARRIED OUT IN OTHER BODIES, AND LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
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PAGE 03 STATE 206764

BEARING IN MIND THE SPECIFIC ISSUES RAISED BY MINISTERS IN DISCUSSION.
END QUOTE.

OTHER PARAGRAPHS OF COMMUNIQUE ARE STILL BEING DEBATED. RESOURCE-POOR LDC'S PUSHING TO INCLUDE PARAGRAPHS RECOMMENDING SPECIAL TREATMENT. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. UNAGREED PORTIONS OF DRAFT COMMUNIQUE ENDORSING MCINTYRE REPORT AS OF MORNING AUGUST 28 STILL CONTAINED BRACKETED TEXTS, WITH ONE CALLING FOR JAMAICAN PM MANLEY TO PRESENT IT TO UNGA. JAMAICANS INDICATE MANLEY DISINTERESTED, HOWEVER. ON AUGUST 26,

WHEN GUYANA PM BURNHAM ANTICIPATED ACCEPTANCE OF HIS CALL FOR RINGING ENDORSEMENT OF REPORT AS FIRST STEP TOWARD NIEO, BURNHAM WAS ALLEGED TO HAVE BEEN INTERESTED IN PERSONALLY PRESENTING IT TO UNGA IN NEW YORK. WE DOUBT THAT HE WILL WANT TO PRESENT WATERED DOWN ENDORSEMENT WHICH SEEMS TO BE EMERGING.

4. CONFERENCE EXPECTED AFTER DISPOSING OF MCINTYRE REPORT LATE AUGUST 28 TO MOVE MORE QUICKLY TO OTHER ISSUES, INCLUDING CURRENT RECESSION-INFLATION, MULTINATIONALS, REVIEW OF OPERATIONS OF COMMONWEALTH FUND FOR TECHNICAL COOPERATION, TOURISM, AND PROPOSED COMMONWEALTH INVESTMENT BANK. JAMAICAN AND TRINIDADIAN DELEGATES COMMENTED PRIVATELY LAST NIGHT THAT THEY WERE PUSHING DEVELOPMENT BANK HEADQUARTERED NASSAU, KINGSTON OR ELSEWHERE OUTSIDE LONDON WITH AN ESSENTIALLY COMMERCIAL OUTLOOK AND WITH FOCUS TOWARD PRIVATE PROJECTS RATHER THAN STRICTLY GOVERNMENT-IMPLEMENTED AID. THEY MADE PITCH TO SECGEN RAMPHAL THAT HE TRY TO DEVELOP CONSENSUS ON THIS. RAMPHAL TOLD US, HOWEVER, THAT ABOUT HALF OF COMMONWEALTH REPS HAVE NO REAL INTEREST IN FOMENTING PRIVATE INDUSTRY IN THEIR COUNTRIES THROUGH THIS MECHANISM, THAT NIGERIANS ARE UNEXPECTEDLY DRAGGING THEIR FEET ON BANK, AND THAT IN VIEW THIS OPPOSITION, HE BELIEVED HE MUST SHOW NEUTRALITY. RAMPHAL ADDED HE FEELS FOCUS OF BANK NEEDS ANOTHER YEAR TO BE WORKED OUT.

5. TEST OF MCINTYRE REPORT FORWARDED DEPARTMENT AUGUST 26 HAS NOW BEEN DECLASSIFIED BY SECRETARIAT AND WILL APPARENTLY NOT BE FURTHER CHANGED. OUR SUMMARY IN REF B CAN THEREFORE ALSO NOW BE CONSIDERED UNCLASSIFIED.MATTHEWS

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PAGE 04 STATE 206764

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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